

CIA

Money Use

FOIAb3b

Linked

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To 2 Denver

Labor Units

Middle East,

Latin Areas

Activity Sites

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The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) used two Denver-based labor organizations to pump hundreds of thousands of dollars into undercover activities in Latin America and the Middle East, The Denver Post learned Friday.

The two organizations are the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW) and the International Federation of Petroleum and Chemical Workers.

Sources in Switzerland and Washington confirmed that the federation received a total of \$40,000 in 1961 and 1962 from the Andrew Hamilton Fund of Philadelphia, which earlier had been identified as a link in the CIA money-funneling operation.

Other sources said CIA funding of the federation would probably total "several hundred thousand dollars a year."

Latest Additions

The OCAW and the federation were the latest additions to a long list of organizations which have been linked to CIA activities. Other organizations included the National Student Association, the National Education Association and the National Council of Churches.

Officials of both the OCAW and the federation denied the allegations, but declined to discuss certain details of their financing.

A third Denver organization—the League for International Social and Cooperative Development—also was mentioned in connection with the federation's operations. It, too, declined to discuss its finances.

"Normally, we would have no objection (to such disclosure)," Sam Butler, a league certified public accountant with offices at 101 S. Madison St., told The Post. "But we're being dragged into this, and it's not right."

Private Group

"We're a private organization, and we don't need to give out such information."

Butler said he wasn't at liberty to disclose the names of members of the league's board of directors.

But he did acknowledge that O. A. (Jack) Knight, former president of the

OCAW, was associated with the league. Knight—who after his retirement from OCAW in 1965 moved to Phoenix, Ariz.—wasn't available for comment.

The method by which the CIA funneled money into certain federation activities were incredibly complex.

Sources in Washington gave this account: The federation was established at a meeting in Paris in 1954. For a few years, it just "drifted along"—small in numbers and relatively ineffective.

In 1957-58, it suddenly began growing, in size and in power, until today it claims about 2 million members in 153 unions, in 78 countries.

Perhaps it was coincidence, but on July 21, 1957, a story in The Post quoted OCAW President Knight as saying:

"We can have a heavy influence in offsetting communism in the Middle East."

"We place a positive emphasis on democracy, and we believe what we teach in the labor field will carry over into political life."

Knight—who, at the time had